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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6726

INFO RUCNRAQ/IRAQ COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEHAK/USDAO ANKARA TU PRIORITY

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP:PDUSDP/ISA:EUR/ISA:NESA// PRIORITY

RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEUITH/ODC ANKARA TU PRIORITY

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J-3/J-5// PRIORITY

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TAGS: PTER PREL MOPS MARR TU IZ IR

SUBJECT: TRILATERAL PKK TALKS: TURKISH THINKING ON NEXT
ROUND

REF: ANKARA 3607 AND PREVIOUS

Classified By: Pol-Mil Counselor Timothy A. Betts for reasons 1.4 (b) a
nd (d).

¶1. (C) MFA Director General for Security Affairs
(S/CT-equivalent) Hayati Guven called us in June 20 to
provide us the latest GOT thinking on preparing for
trilateral (U.S.-Turkey-Iraq) talks on the PKK. He reported
that he had discussed the matter with Undersecretary Tuygan
and senior ministry staff, and that Tuygan had instructed
Guven to lead interagency preparations and head the Turkish
delegation for the talks.

¶2. (C) Guven emphasized that the talks should be
well-prepared and produce tangible results. He plans to
compile a "shopping list" of steps that the U.S., Turkey,
and/or Iraq could take against the PKK in Iraq. Once he
clears this list through the Turkish interagency, he will
share it with us, but he will probably not be prepared to do
so until the second week of July. He asked that we in turn
share the list with the GOI and get the Iraqi reaction. We
suggested that instead Turkey discuss the list directly with
the Iraqis as well. GOI officials might have their own ideas
on measures they may be prepared to offer. Guven took this
on board. (COMMENT: We will continue to press the GOT to
respect Iraq's sovereignty and not to treat us as a
middleman. END COMMENT.)

¶3. (C) Guven believes the timing of the next round will
depend on the preparatory process. If all three sides
quickly indicate consensus on certain measures, the meeting
could take place by late July. But, he continued, this seems
unlikely, and it will be difficult to schedule talks for
August, Turkey's traditional holiday period. Thus the talks
could take place in late August or early September.

¶4. (C) As for venue, Guven bluntly stated that Turkey prefers
the talks be held outside of Turkey to limit press coverage.
He said this will be especially important if the talks appear
unlikely to produce significant results. If it appears that
the sides may reach consensus on concrete steps that could be
credibly touted to the Turkish people, however, the GOT may
prefer to hold the talks here. He requested that we delay
real discussion on venue until the substantive preparations

progress further. Finally, Guven expects that the next round should not/not narrowly focus on law enforcement and legal matters, as the last round (in Aug. 2005) did. The talks should focus on a range of options to fight the PKK, he said.

Guven hoped to hear the USG's reaction to this approach this week, if possible.

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<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/ankara/>

WILSON